

(S.B. 503)

(No. 107)

(Approved August 28, 1997)

AN ACT

To direct the Secretaries of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Department of Health and the Department of Education to amend the regulations so that driver's licenses, marriage licenses, and the various professional qualification certificates issued by the Department of Education, among others, of the directors and teachers be issued in both official languages of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Act No. 1 of January 28, 1993 establishes that Spanish and English are the official languages of the Government of Puerto Rico and that both may be used indistinctly.

By virtue of this Act, the agencies, departments and dependencies of the Government may use both languages in their daily endeavors. At the same time said Act allows the citizens to request the Government to issue its documents in one or both languages, according to their needs.

The Vital Statistics Registry Division of the Department of Health has designed and issues birth certificates in both languages.

Considering the success achieved by the reproduction of birth certificates in both languages and the convenience that the similar

production of all public documents would imply, and in compliance with the mandate established by Act No. 1, the Secretaries of the Departments of Transportation and Public Works, Health and Education are hereby directed to amend their regulations so that all driver's and marriage licenses be issued in both official languages.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- The Secretaries of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Department of Health and the Department of Education are hereby directed to amend the regulations so that driver's licenses, marriage licenses, and the various professional qualification certificates issued by the Department of Education, among others, of the directors and teachers be issued in both official languages of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Section 2.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

January 12, 1999

José A. Figueroa-Lugo, Director of the Office of Legislative Services of the Legislature of Puerto Rico, hereby certifies to the Secretary of State that he has duly compared the English and Spanish texts of Act No. 107 (S.B. 503) of the 1st Session of the 13th Legislature of Puerto Rico, entitled:

AN ACT to direct the Secretaries of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, the Department of Health and the Department of Education to amend the regulations so that driver's licenses, marriage licenses, and the various professional qualification certificates issued by the Department of Education, among others, of the directors and teachers be issued in both official languages of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,

and finds the same are complete, true and correct versions of each other.

José A. Figueroa-Lugo